APPOINTMENT -IN THE' AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN! COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

3295. SHRIRAM NARESH VADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be *]* pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that two officers working on the non-Governmetn side of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research been appointed or given the charge wtthout formal appointment as Commissioners in the Agriculture Department, if so, the details thereof

(b) whether any approval has been received from the Union Cabinet, if not the : reasons therefor;

(c) whether arty inquiry has been conducted by Government against the persons;

(d) if so, the Savings of inquiry in this regard and what action has been proposed by the enquiry officer ;

(e) whether Government have proposed to replace the guilty officer till final decision in the matter and to avoid tampering with records, influencing the cause of enquiry/investigation ; and

(f) if not, what are the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) (a)

Two officers of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) are holding current charge of the duties of Agriculture Commissioner and Animal Husbandry Commissioner till the posts are filled up on regular basis.

(b) Approval of Agricultural Minister had been obtained. Steps have been initiated to chrain "the approval 6! the' Appointments Committee of the; Cabinet.

(c) A Preliminary inquiry was conducted against one of the officers.

(d) Some administrative and Financial irregularities committed by the officer were detected. Suspension of the officer and the change of his headquarters were recommended. Departmental proceedings have also been initiated.

(e) The officer was placed under suspension and the headquarters of the officer were changed and he was posted to the I.C.A.R. Headquarters at New Delhi,

(f) Question does not arise.

INCREASE IN PRICE OF VEGETABLES

3296. DR. SANJAY A SINH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government arc aware of abnormal increase in the prices of vegetables particularly tomato, potato, onion etc. during the last 4 months;

(b) if so, what are the details of the increase and the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken to arrest the increase in prices in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) (a)

Yes, Sir.

(b) The wholesale prices of vegetables varied from place to place. The percentage Increase at major centres was as follows :

Percentage increase in the wholesale prices during September, to December, 1993

Commodity	Markets				
	Delhi	Bombay	Bangalore	Calcutta	Madras
Tomato	(+)50.5	(+)260.0	(+)109.7	(+)62.8	(+)36.2
Potato	(–)46.0	(+)13.6	(+)87.0	(+)4.8	(+)62.5
Onion	(+)62.9	(+)63.8	(+)107.3	(+)88.8	(+)75.2

The.increase in prices of vebetables can lie attributed to imbalance between demand for and the supply of commodities, the imperfections in the marketing system of perishable commodities created by fluctuations in production, trade practices, transport bottlenecks, etc. The general inflationary trend in the country also affected the market sentiment.

(c) In order to control the excessive fluctuation in the prices of vegetables, the Government has undertaken both short-term and long-term measures. The short-term measures include the sale of vegetables at fixed prices through Government agencies. As a long-term measure the Government has launched a central sector scheme to increase the production of vegetables in the country.

PROJECTS UNDER THE AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

3297. DR. SANJAVA S1NH Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the projects under the Agricultural Development Programmes proposed to be taken up for implementation in Uttar Pradesh and Haryana during the next three years; and

(b) how much amount is proposed to be spent on esch of those projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir. Agricultural Development Project (ADP) proposals ...re no? received frcm Uttar Pradesh and Haryana. At present, Haryana is in preliminary stage of project formulation.

(b) Question does nit arise,

PRODUCTION OF FOODGRAINS

3298. DR. SANJAYA SINH : Will the Minister of AGRICLUTURE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the requirement of fordgrains in the country during the year 1993-94; and

(b) what is the target fixed for produc-Won during the currend year and what is the share of Punjab, Haryana and U.P. in that regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) The requirement of fordgrains at a given point of time depends on various factors like levels of produc"-',!!, population, income, availability of substitutes etc. The: per capita availability of foodgrains for the year 1993 has been provisionally estimated at 465.6 gms. per day.

(b) The foodgrains production arget has been fixed at 188 million tonnes during the current year. The share of Punjab, Haryana and Ufiar Pradesh to the total targetted ptoduction of the country is 10.45 per cent, 5.29 per cent and 20.03 per cent respectively.

ARTIFICIAL RAINS

3299. DR. SANJAYA SINH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) what are the details of the steps | taken for making artificial rains during the j last three years together with the results achieved;
i

(b) what are the future plan in that re-. gard and the details of the area of land [proposed to be covered in Uttar Pradesh;
! and

(c) whether Government propose to set up a separate cell under the Agriculture